

REMARKS

Claims 15-18 and 24-46 were pending. Claims 32-46 have been canceled, without acquiescence or prejudice to pursue the claims in a related application. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully thanks the Examiner for determining that claims 15-18 and 24-31 are allowable.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 32-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over applicant admitted prior art (hereafter AAPA) in view of Berndlmaier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,455,336).

Without acquiescing to the basis of the rejection, claims 32-46 have been canceled. Therefore, this rejection is now moot.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, it is believed that all claims are now allowable and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. If the Examiner has any questions or comments regarding this amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (650) 849-4820.

To the extent that any arguments and disclaimers were presented to distinguish prior art, or for other reasons substantially related to patentability, during the prosecution of any and all parent and related application(s)/patent(s), Applicant(s) hereby explicitly retracts and rescinds any and all such arguments and disclaimers, and respectfully requests that the Examiner re-visit the prior art that such arguments and disclaimers were made to avoid.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. 50-4047, referencing billing number 7034222001. The Commissioner is authorized to credit any overpayment or to charge any underpayment to Bingham McCutchen's Deposit Account No. 50-4047, referencing billing number 7034222001.

Respectfully submitted,

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